

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
TOPIC	Military Activity in the Eighth Gds Army Area		
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	
DATE OF CONTENT		DATE OBTAINED	19 October 1954
DATE PREPARED		DATE PREPARED	19 October 1954
REFERENCES			
PAGES	2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS	This is UNEVALUATED		

25X1

1. At 1550 on 16 September 1954, a train of 5 boxcars with personnel and 13 flatcars with sideracks carrying 3 light AA guns and 8 trucks was observed at the Weissenfels railroad station. Motor vehicle [ ] were seen. The train came from Rostock and left for Weimar-Buchenwald at 1620. [ ] 25X1
2. At 0900 on 18 September, a train of 4 boxcars and 9 flatcars was seen at the Weissenfels railroad station. The train carried 4 T-34/85 tanks, trucks [ ] with TMP type pontoons, and trucks [ ] with 2 assault boats and, on the boxcars, an undetermined number of soldiers. The engine of the train was headed toward Weimar. [ ] 25X1
3. At 1845 on 22 September, a train of 19 boxcars with personnel and 17 flatcars with sideracks carrying 17 x 122-mm field howitzers and 17 trucks passed through Weimar. The train came from the west and proceeded eastward. Motor vehicle [ ] were seen. [ ] 25X1
4. At noon on 21 September, the following units were assembled in Ichtershausen southwest of Erfurt: an engineer unit with approximately 30 trucks with bridge building equipment; approximately 40 trucks, each occupied by approximately 25 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying small arms. The trucks [ ] were seen; approximately 11 Studebaker trucks with radio sets, each occupied by soldiers with pack radio sets; approximately 10 trucks towing 100-mm AT guns, which went toward Erfurt; approximately 25 trucks towing 122-mm field howitzers, which went toward Arnstadt; 4 trucks towing 85-mm AA guns. [ ] 25X1

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An SU-76 gun was emplaced east of Ictershausen and another SU-76 gun was emplaced west of the town. Three 37-mm AA guns and 3 AA machine guns on trucks were seen at both the northern and southern entrance of the town. [ ]

- [ ] 5. At 0730 on 23 September, a shipment of 14 x 152-mm gun howitzers, 14 prime movers, 7 trailers and 2 trucks [ ] seen at the Arnstadt railroad station. The engine of the train was headed toward Ohrdruf. Motor vehicle [ ] was seen. At night, artillery fire was heard from the direction of Ohrdruf. At 0830 on 23 September, T-34 tanks [ ] were seen ready for loading at the ramp of the Stadtilm railroad station [ ]

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1. [ ] Comment. According to motor vehicle [ ] the train presumably carried units of the 13th AAA Div which possibly came from Wustrow or Altengrabow. Compare with information on return shipments from Altengrabow. [ ]

25X1

2. [ ] Comment. According to other information, engineer soldiers had already been detained in Weimar during the night of 17 September. [ ] The motor vehicle [ ] fail to indicate that the shipment involved the army engineer regiment stationed in Weimar. Since the motor vehicle [ ] belonged to the Eighth Gds Army and only the corps engineer battalions of the army are equipped with a tank company, the unit on the train may have been the 380th Engr Bn of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps. [ ]

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3. [ ] Comment. According to other information, two shipments with artillery units went in the same direction on 22 September. The motor vehicle [ ] which belonged to the Eighth Gds Army fail to identify the unit concerned. [ ]

25X1

25X1

4. [ ] Comment. According to motor vehicle [ ] the units probably were elements of the 20th Gds Mecz Div from Camp Crawinkel. According to the SU-76 guns, the units were possibly elements of the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div. [ ]

25X1

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5. [ ] Comment. The motor vehicle [ ] in connection with the type of artillery pieces, indicate a shipment of the 43d Army Arty Brig. The two artillery brigades were no longer at the Altenburg post on 22 September. The tank [ ] fail to furnish indications for the identity of the unit. [ ]

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6. [ ] Comment. These observations supplement previous reports on the first indications of preparations for fall maneuvers in the area of the Eighth Gds Army. [ ]

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4. At noon on 21 September, the following units were assembled in Ichtershausen southwest of Erfurt:  
 an engineer unit with approximately 30 trucks with bridge building equipment;  
 approximately 40 trucks, each occupied by approximately 25 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying small arms. [redacted] truck [redacted] were seen;  
 approximately 11 Studebaker trucks with radio sets, each occupied by 5 soldiers with pack radio sets;  
 approximately 10 trucks towing 100-mm AT guns, which went toward Erfurt;  
 approximately 25 trucks towing 122-mm field howitzers, which went toward Arnstadt;  
 4 trucks towing 85-mm AA guns. 25X1

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25X1

25X1

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25X1

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25X1

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CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Merseburg Airfield

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

25X1

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 13 October 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

25X1

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED

1. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Merseburg airfield between 2 and 12 September 1954:

2 to 6 September. No flying was practiced.

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7 September. Between 1830 and midnight, individual MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s practiced flying.

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8 September. No air activity was observed.

9 September. MiG-15 or U-MiG-15 No 454 took off at about 1130 and landed again at 1210. Two MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s took off at 1200 and landed at 1255. Both aircraft were unnumbered but had silvery painted noses to as far as the leading edge of the wings. Between 1805 and 2000 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s made local flights of about 3 minutes duration. It was observed that the crew was changed in front of the southeastern hangar after four local flights. In addition to the two MiG-15s without numbers, MiG-15s [redacted] were involved in air activity.

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10 September. From 1815 until about midnight, there was air activity as on the preceding day.

11 and 12 September. No flying was practiced.<sup>1</sup>

2. A radio installation was observed northeast of Meuschau, north of the target range. The installation consisted of two masts, each 13 to 15 meters high and one of them fitted with an umbrella-shaped antenna. One temporary building housing a generator and two temporary quartering buildings occupied by 20 to 25 personnel were seen near there. Another temporary building housing a generator and fitted on its roof with a mast, 6 to 7 meters high, was located 180 to 200 meters west of the installation.<sup>2</sup>

1. Comment. It is believed that there was no change in the occupation of Merseburg airfield by a [redacted] division headquarters and one fighter regiment. All aircraft [redacted] observed were previously reported from Merseburg. Silvery painted noses on MiG-15s [redacted] were observed for the first time in East Germany.

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~~SECRET/CONTROL~~ - [REDACTED]

25X1

-2-

25X1

2. [REDACTED] Comment - For detailed information on radio installations observed at the field, [REDACTED]

25X1

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